



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0313624.9  
Claims searched: 1-12

Examiner: Nicola Keeley  
Date of search: 17 November 2003

## Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
A		US 4869205 (LARSON) See especially figures
X	1, 2 and 12	US 3973521 (DUNCAN) See especially figures
A		DE 29623806 U1 (MANNESMANN) See especially figures and WPI abstract Accession No. 1998-349482-31

### Categories:

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
& Member of the same patent family	E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

### Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>v</sup>:

A1M, F2G

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC<sup>7</sup>:

A01J, F16L

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>TRCBP6231492</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. <b>PCT/GB2004/002507</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>11/06/2004</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>12/06/2003</b>
Applicant <b>AVON POLYMER PRODUCTS LIMITED</b>		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b.  With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2.  Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3.  Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 4

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b.  none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
**IPC 7 A01J/04 F16L33/30**

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
**IPC 7 A01J F16L**

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 101 32 132 A1 (MAIER JUN., JAKOB). 16 January 2003 (2003-01-16) paragraph '0077! - paragraph '0078!; figure 1	1-4
A	GB 2 151 735 A (* RASMUSSEN GMBH). 24 July 1985 (1985-07-24) page 3, column 75 - page 3, column 120; figure 1	1-14
A	DE 44 13 713 A1 (THERMCONCEPT PRODUKTE FUER HEIZUNG UND SANITAER GMBH & CO., 48282 EMSD) 24 August 1995 (1995-08-24) the whole document	1-14
A	BE 555 733 A (SOCIETE UTINA-ELEKTROWERK G.B.H.) 30 March 1957 (1957-03-30) the whole document	1-14
	-/-	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

15/03/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo NL  
Fax. (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Simson, G

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 1 423 140 A (ROWLAND W G) 28 January 1976 (1976-01-28) the whole document	1-14

## Information on patent family members

International Application No  
PCT/GB2004/002507

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
DE 10132132	A1	16-01-2003	DE WO	20220833 U1 03003817 A2		15-04-2004 16-01-2003
GB 2151735	A	24-07-1985	DE CA ES FR IT JP JP JP SE	3345903 A1 1259354 A1 292681 U 2556815 A1 1179881 B 1673671 C 3037076 B 60155089 A 8406384 A		04-07-1985 12-09-1989 16-12-1986 21-06-1985 16-09-1987 26-06-1992 04-06-1991 14-08-1985 21-06-1985
DE 4413713	A1	24-08-1995	DE	9402909 U1		04-08-1994
BE 555733	A		DE FR	1019120 B 1169679 A		07-11-1957 05-01-1959
GB 1423140	A	28-01-1976	AT AT BE CH DE FR IT NL	339087 B 207773 A 796774 A1 550962 A 2312483 A1 2176405 A5 981115 B 7303584 A		26-09-1977 15-01-1977 02-07-1973 28-06-1974 04-10-1973 26-10-1973 10-10-1974 18-09-1973